



Boundary County

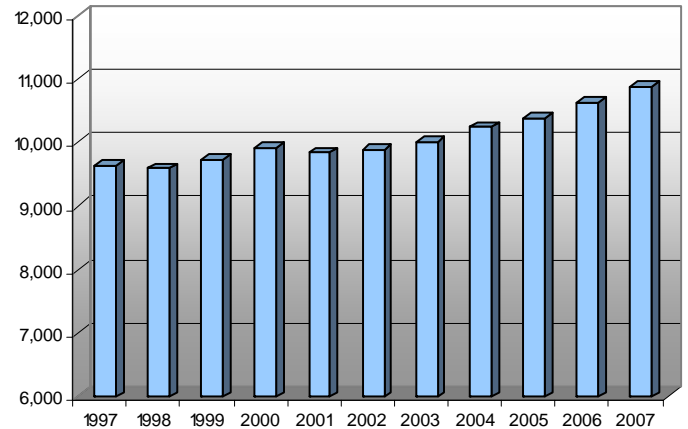
October 2008

Work Force Trends

Population

Boundary County's scenery, recreational opportunities, quality of life and expanding job market drew many new residents in the 1980s and 1990s. Around 2001, economic troubles began to slow population growth. In the last three years, population growth has increased slightly, as Bonner County residents moved there to enjoy its lower housing costs and rural lifestyle. From 1997 to 2007, the county's population grew 13 percent from 9,633 to 10,872 while Idaho's population grew 22 percent, and the U.S. population grew 11 percent.

About 90 percent of the county is forested, so most of its population lives in the Kootenai River Valley where Bonners Ferry has a population of 2,635 and Moyie Springs has a population of 722.

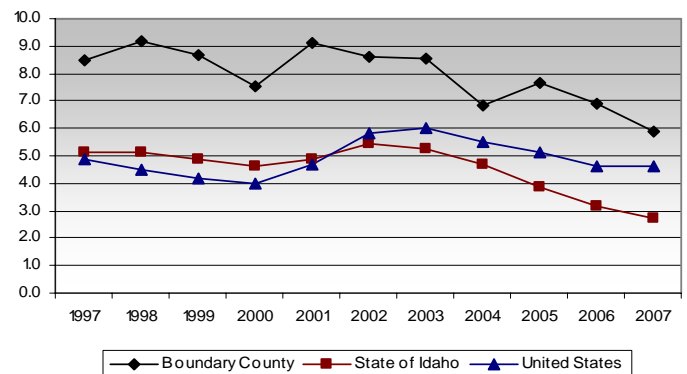


Labor Force & Employment

Timber and agriculture are the county's traditional mainstays. In 2003, the county lost one of its two largest mills. As lumber prices fell to extremely low levels in the last two years, the county has lost another 140 logging and mill jobs. Agriculture's importance increased in the 1980s, when Anheuser-Busch developed Elk Mountain Farms, a large hops farm, and several ornamental tree nurseries and Christmas tree farms opened.

Boundary County diversified its economic base in the last two decades. In 1982, CEDU Services founded Rocky Mountain Academy, a boarding school for troubled teens near Bonners Ferry. By 2004, CEDU employed more than 330 people, making it the county's largest employer. In March 2005, CEDU went into bankruptcy and closed its schools. In late 2005, Idaho Educational Services began reopening the CEDU schools, and currently employs about 200 people. In 1986, the Kootenai Tribe opened the

Unemployment Rates



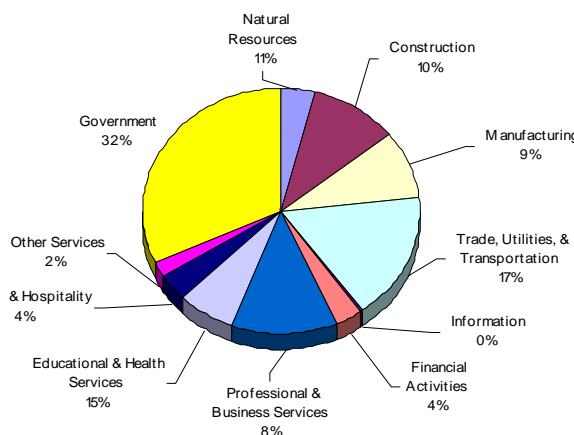
Labor Force	Sep 2007	Sep 2008
Civilian Labor Force	3,997	4,162
Total Employment	3,781	3,823
Unemployed	216	339
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.4	8.1
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.7	5.0
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	6.1

Kootenai River Inn in Bonners Ferry, giving the county's small tourism industry new potential. In the 1990s, the tribe added a casino. The county also benefits from the increased jobs at its two ports to Canada after 2001. Bonners Ferry, named by tourists as Idaho's "friendliest city," has completed downtown improvement projects to attract more visitors.

Boundary Economic Development Council is pursuing many avenues to recreate the growth the county enjoyed in the 1980s and 1990s.

Labor Force	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Civilian Labor Force	4,480	4,511	4,469	4,224	4,036	4,043	4,188	4,305	4,196	4,178	4,077
Unemployment	380	414	387	319	367	349	359	293	322	289	240
% of Labor Force Unemployed	8.5	9.2	8.7	7.6	9.1	8.6	8.6	6.8	7.7	6.9	5.9
Employment	4,100	4,097	4,082	3,904	3,670	3,694	3,830	4,011	3,874	3,890	3,837

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2007



Economic Development

The county's long-term success in diversifying and growing its economic base provides a good environment for attracting new businesses. The growth of the population base and the increase in tourism activity also help the county's businesses thrive.

From 1997 to 2007, the number of private-sector employers in Boundary County grew 33 percent from 338 to 451. The industries creating the most new businesses were: construction, new businesses; professional and business services, 26; educational, health care and social services, 17; transportation, 10; manufacturing, 9; wholesale and retail trade, 5; and financial and insurance, 5.

Large Employers

Boundary Community Hospital
Boundary Trading Co. (food & drug store)
Elk Mountain Farms
Idaho Educational Services (schools)
Idaho Forest Group (mill)
Kootenai River Inn & Casino
U.S. Government (border patrol & forest service)
Welco of Idaho Inc. (mill)

Occupational Wages*

Starting Wage

Bookkeepers	\$8.50
Carpenters, Journey-level	\$16.00
Cashiers	\$7.00
Clerks, General Office	\$8.00
Clerks, Retail	\$7.25
Cooks, Restaurant	\$7.50
Farm Workers	\$7.75
Janitors	\$8.50
Laborers, General	\$9.00
Millwrights	\$15.75
Nurses, Registered	\$18.00
Sawmill Workers	\$11.25
Secretaries, General	\$8.75
Truck Drivers, Heavy	\$12.25

* Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor Web site at lmi.idaho.gov.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1997, 2006, & 2007	1997		2006		2007	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	3,363	\$20,956	3,566	\$27,260	3,561	\$28,232
Agriculture	419	\$22,160	424	\$32,317	411	\$32,034
Mining	*	*	*	*	*	*
Construction	151	\$19,004	298	\$29,505	336	\$32,531
Manufacturing	538	\$28,920	365	\$33,225	303	\$31,799
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	524	\$18,634	566	\$24,933	548	\$27,315
Information	27	\$15,559	17	\$15,065	15	\$16,379
Financial Activities	69	\$15,275	87	\$35,207	92	\$36,163
Professional and Business Services	103	\$21,708	346	\$28,000	412	\$29,167
Educational and Health Services	364	\$22,127	215	\$19,997	223	\$22,325
Leisure and Hospitality	309	\$8,536	139	\$8,966	124	\$9,444
Other Services	39	\$15,882	58	\$24,139	57	\$26,049
Government	778	\$21,803	1,052	\$27,033	1,040	\$27,512

Per Capita Income	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Boundary County	\$15,577	\$16,488	\$16,926	\$17,077	\$17,359	\$18,030	\$18,463	\$19,073	\$19,348	\$20,243
State of Idaho	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,077	\$25,024	\$25,221	\$25,524	\$27,361	\$28,301	\$29,920
United States	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,843	\$30,574	\$30,821	\$31,504	\$33,123	\$34,757	\$36,714

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:
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labor.idaho.gov

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